


THE SCHOOL RESULTS SUMMARY

What it means

School Results Summary

Another Learner
123 Small Street
Countryville
Local Town

NSN: 117008408
Issued: January 2010



NZQA
NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
HANA TOHU MATAUANGA O AOTEAROA

Qualifications gained

National Qualifications Framework Registered Qualifications
National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 3) achieved with merit
National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 2)
National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 1) achieved with excellence
New Zealand University Entrance
University Entrance (2009)

Dates of achievement

Date Achieved
12/2009
12/2009
04/2008
12/2009

Grade achieved

Credits Result
4 A
4 E
4 A
3 M
5 N
5 E

Subject Credit Summary

	Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			Total			
	N	A	E	N	A	E	N	A	E				
Biology	11	6	9	26	3	12	6	18	8	3	4	15	59
Chemistry	8	6	13	27	7	9	6	22	6	7	8	21	31
English	9	3	12	24	12	9	3	22	12	3	6	21	66
French	7	7	5	19	9	10	3	22	14	10	10	4	63
Mathematics	6	5	9	14	10	14	15	9	14	10	10	4	63
Physical Education													14
Social Studies													33
Total	40	41	53	134	63	27	18	108	41	23	62	96	338

N - not achieved A - achieved M - achieved with merit E - achieved with excellence

Standards Assessed in 2009

Each standard can have a range of results including "N" for not achieved, "A" for achieved, "M" for achieved with merit, or "E" for achieved with excellence. As some standards can not be awarded all of these results the result code is shown in bold where a candidate has reached the maximum possible result for that standard. All "00xxx" series are achievement standards and all other reference numbers are unit standards.

Biology Level 3
6314 Complete an investigation into the ecological niche of a plant with guidance (int)
80712 Describe the role of DNA in relation to gene expression (ext)
80716 Describe animal behaviour and plant responses in relation to environmental factors (ext)
80718 Describe applications of biotechnological techniques (int)

Chemistry Level 3
90095 Determine the concentration of an oxidant or reductant by titration (int) (2 credits)
90098 Describe aspects of organic chemistry (ext)

(ext) - externally assessed (int) - internally assessed

What the standard covered

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University Entrance achieved

For a detailed explanation of the eligibility requirements for these qualifications please visit www.nzqa.govt.nz



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"I've employed a lot of young people over the last couple of years, and reading through their papers and credits you do get a good indication of where they're at, just going with the credits they have, the marks they've got. NCEA tells you a bit more about the person, if they're hands on or computer skilled or good at fault finding."

JUD DWYER, MANAGER, WESTLAND MILK PRODUCTS

"NCEA, the words stand for National Certificate for Educational Achievement, and that's the key, it's called a National Certificate, it's simply a Certificate that indicates that a person has reached a particular standard at a given level."

TONY GUILLIARD, PRINCIPAL OF WESTLAND HIGH SCHOOL

THE BASICS

What is NCEA?

NCEA stands for National Certificate of Educational Achievement. NCEAs are the most common qualifications you will be working towards in years 11 to 13.

Why should I get an NCEA?

NCEAs and other national certificates are recognised by employers and used for selection by universities and polytechnics. NCEAs are also accepted by most employers and universities overseas.

Independent research has shown that if you do well in NCEAs, you are likely to do well in your first year at university.

This guide is for students new to NCEA. Ask your school or polytechnic to read this guide so that they can help you. In particular, get them to read the tips for students.

How do I get an NCEA?

NCEAs are gained by building up credits. Credits are awarded for each standard you achieve in the course or programme you are studying.

- **Standards** are skills or knowledge that you are expected to achieve or know in a subject. For example, a Mathematics standard could be: *Use decimals and percentages to solve problems.*
- **Assessments** measure how well you meet these standards. Assessments can be internal (like a test or assignment) or external (like an end-of-year exam).
- When you achieve a standard, you also achieve a number of **credits** for that standard.

For example, you gain an NCEA. There are credits, depending on the difficulty of the standard.



THE DETAILS

How do I enter for an NCEA?

Your school will enter you for an NCEA and let you know when to finalise your entries and pay your fees (\$75 each year for all standards).

NCEAs are organised by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), who will give you a unique National Student Number (NSN). You can use this to look up information NZQA holds about you sent in by your school, including your entries, results and Record of Achievement. See www.nzqa.govt.nz/hcea or phone 0800 697 296.

How should I choose my course or programme?

In year 11, you should take a broad range of courses that lead on to more specialised subjects. In years 12 and 13, you should start thinking about what areas you need to focus on for your future study or career. If you have a particular career in mind, check out what standards you will need (see **More information** on page 8).

How do I achieve a standard?

When you study a programme or course, your work is measured against pre-set standards using **assessments**. If you pass the assessment, you achieve that standard.

As you study a new topic your teachers will explain to you what is going to be assessed. Your teachers will tell you if you are on the right track or help you to improve your work.

Types of standards

Schools assess two types of standards – unit standards and achievement standards.

- **Unit standards** are tested at school by teachers, as internal assessments.
- **Achievement standards** can be tested internally at school by teachers, or externally at the end of the year in national exams using a portfolio.

A Mathematics assessment programme at level 1 may look like this:

REGISTRATION NUMBER	ASSESSMENT	NAME OF STANDARD	CREDITS
5224	Internal	Use decimals and percentages to solve problems	2
5230	Internal	Carry out a statistical investigation and interpret data	3
5232	Internal	Determine probabilities in practical situations	2
90148	External	Sketch and interpret graphs	3
90149	Internal	Solve problems involving measurement of everyday objects	3
90150	Internal	Use geometric techniques to produce a pattern or object	2
90151	External	Solve straightforward number problems in context	3
90152	External	Solve right-angled triangle problems	2
90153	External	Use geometric reasoning to solve problems	2

Levels of standards

Standards are organised into levels of increasing difficulty. The standards assessed in schools are usually at **levels 1, 2 and 3**. Most year 11 students start at level 1, and progress to level 2 in year 12, and level 3 in year 13. NCEAs are awarded according to the level of the standards you achieve. For example, if you achieve a certain number of level 1 standards, you will gain level 1 NCEA.

Multi-level study

Many schools will allow you to study a mix of standards at different levels, depending on your ability. For example, in year 12 you may study most subjects at level 2, but do a new subject at level 1 and another advanced subject at level 3.

How will my work be assessed?

Assessments measure your performance against the standards in your programme or course. If you pass the assessment, then you have achieved that standard and you gain **credits** to go towards your qualification.

Some standards are **internally** assessed by your teachers during the year. In this case, NZQA checks that there is consistency across all schools. Most **external** assessments are by exam at the end of the year, although for some subjects (e.g. Technology, Visual Arts) you will need to submit a portfolio.

How will I be graded in each standard?

Your grade will depend on the type of standard being assessed.

- For **unit standards**, there are two grades you can get: Achieved (A) for passing, or Not Achieved (N) if you don't pass.
- For **achievement standards**, there are four grades you can get: Achieved (A) for a satisfactory performance, Merit (M) for very good performance, Excellence (E) for outstanding performance or Not Achieved (N) if you don't pass.

What happens if I don't achieve a standard?

For internally assessed standards, your school may allow you to be assessed again later in the year. For some standards, your school may delay your assessment until the final term, taking into account most of your year's work.

For externally assessed standards, there is only one opportunity to achieve the standard each year – the exam or other external assessment at the end of the year.

How many credits do I need for NCEAs?

Each standard is worth a set number of credits. When you achieve a standard, these credits count towards an NCEA. They may also contribute towards other national certificates, such as a National Certificate in Mathematics.

What you need for NCEA Certificates

Level 1 – 80 credits at any level, including 8 in literacy (English or te reo Māori) and 8 in numeracy (Mathematics).	Level 2 – 80 credits – a minimum of 60 credits at level 2 or above and 20 credits at any level.	Level 3 – 80 credits – a minimum of 60 credits at level 3 or above and 20 credits at level 2 or above.
60 credits at Level 2 or above	60 credits at Level 3 or above	60 credits at Level 3 or above
plus 20 credits at any level	plus 20 credits at Level 2 or above	plus 20 credits at Level 2 or above
80 credits at Level 2 OR	80 credits at Level 3 OR	80 credits at Level 3 OR
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
80 credits	80 credits	80 credits

"The extra part added to assessment now is that there is a recognition of whether you can do it well, or excellently. So, you can be rewarded for achieving it, just reached the standard, or achieved the standard a little bit better (achieved with merit), or achieved the standard with excellence, that is that you're really good at that particular aspect of that course."

TONY GUILLAND, PRINCIPAL OF WESTLAND HIGH SCHOOL

What if I miss out on level 1 NCEA qualification?

You do not have to achieve a level 1 or level 2 qualification before you can study at the next level. Any credits you earn will count towards your level 1 or level 2 qualification. At the same time you can begin work towards the next level up. This means the credits you earn may contribute to more than one qualification at the same time. You may study some courses, or standards, at the same time.

decide what to

"When you get your first credit you feel like you're growing up, you're not a little kid anymore. It's like climbing stairs, so your first set of credits is the first set of stairs, your second set is the next step."

JESSIE SKIPWORTH, STUDENT AT PORIRUA COLLEGE

Recognising high achievement

You can gain an NCEA with Merit or Excellence. If you gain enough credits for your NCEA and 50 or more of them are at Excellence, you will earn an NCEA with Excellence. If you get 50 or more credits at Merit (or a mix of Merit and Excellence), you will earn an NCEA with Merit.

100% NCEA with Excellence and 23.2%

What do I need to gain University Entrance?

To gain entry to a New Zealand university, you will need to have 42 credits at level 3 or above from a set list of subjects, as well as meeting some literacy (English or te reo Māori) and numeracy (Mathematics) requirements. See www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/for-students/ue/index. Your teachers should also be able to tell you more about these requirements.

University Entrance is the minimum requirement to go to university. Many universities and other tertiary course providers in New Zealand also have specific course entry requirements. Merit and Excellence grades will give you a greater chance of getting into your chosen course. You may need to take particular level 2 or 3 standards as an entry requirement for some tertiary courses.

Are NCEAs the only qualifications I can aim for at school?

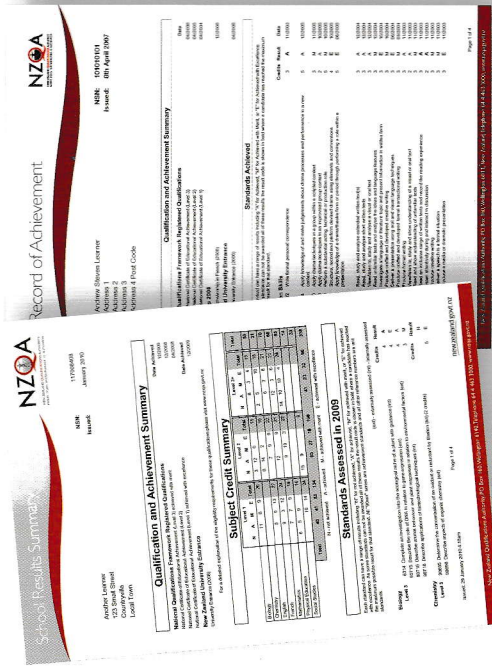
NCEAs are just three of about 1000 qualifications on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). Qualifications can be gained in a range of areas including childcare, sport, tourism, computing, electrical engineering, and business management.

Credits from some work may count towards more than one qualification and all credits count towards the NCEAs. Some qualifications can be completed at school and others you may start at school and then finish in the workplace or at a tertiary provider.

Schools generally have a wide range of courses, with standards combined into new courses or offering non-traditional courses. Ask your school what other national certificates they are offering.

"The transition from school to uni was very smooth. Under NCEA you're working hard all through the year, so you're always aware of your assessments you've got at the moment, and then the next ones. You've got a plan and you know that there's more coming which is quite similar to uni, where you know when your assessments are and when they're due."

OLIVIA BURT, 1ST YEAR AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT



GETTING YOUR NCEA RESULTS

How and when will I get my results?

During the year you will be able to log on to the NZQA website and see your internally assessed results (sent by your school).

In January you'll get provisional results for both internal and external assessment from the previous year. This will include standards achieved and standards not achieved.

When you leave school, you'll receive a School Results Summary (SRS), listing all the standards that you have attempted and the results listed by subject and level, including Not Achieved results (see back page).

You can also request a copy of your Record of Achievement (ROA) from

from the SRS in what is shown and how it is grouped. The ROA is intended to be a life-long record of your achievement and will grow as you gain new standards through tertiary study and industry training.

These documents detail your achievements in a way that should be easily understood by employers and tertiary education providers. You can use them by themselves or use information from them for your Curriculum Vitae.

Can I appeal my results?

If you have a question about your internal assessments, your school has a process for sorting this out.

You can ask NZQA to review results for most external assessments after you get your results. NZQA will give you the information about how to do this.

MORE INFORMATION

The 'Info for Students' area on the NZQA website www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea is a useful source of information including:

- the exam timetable
- past exam papers
- study tips etc.

NCEA

Talk to your school or contact NZQA: www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea
04 463 3000 or 0800 697 296

Careers Advice

Talk to a careers advisor at your school or contact Career Services: www.careers.govt.nz
0800 222 733

Qualifications

Compare all qualifications: www.kiwiquals.govt.nz
Contact an industry training organisation: www.itf.org.nz

The quotes used in this brochure are from a 2009 DVD "Understanding NCEA." Your school has a copy or see: www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/about

TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Ask your son/daughter how NCEA works – most students understand it well.
- Provide support (e.g. time, space, homework help) to help your son/daughter study – remember they will be assessed throughout the year, not just in final examinations
- When helping your son/daughter choose subjects, encourage them to take a broad range at level 1 but to start thinking about what areas they should focus on for future study or career at levels 2 and 3.
- If they tell you, "It's ok, I only need to get Achieved", remind them that higher grades may be the difference between them or someone else getting the job they want or getting into the tertiary course of their choice.
- Ask your son/daughter's school or teachers for guidance on how they are progressing. Most schools also hold very helpful qualification information sessions for parents.

See the NZQA website www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea, click on **Info for parents**.